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The Case of *John Goudet*, and *David Barran*, Partners, Merchants.

In relation to the Petition of the Lustring Company.

Presented to the Honourable House of Commons.

ABout the Months of *May* and *June* last, and before, the said *Goudet* and *Barran*'s Letters were 'often intercepted and stopp'd here; many of them importing Advice of several Bills of Exchange by them drawn on Places beyond the Seas, and others containing Remittances to discharge the said Draughts; Bills of Loading, and other matters of the greatest consequence to Merchants: Which seemed to be contrived to the end that the said *Goudet* and *Barran*'s Bills might for want of their said Advices and Remittances, return back protested, in the time of their intended Confinement, and so occasion their breaking.

The said *Goudet* was on the 15th of the said Month of *June* taken up, and their Books and Papers seized by Warrant from the Secretary of State, for suspicion of Treason and Treasonable Practices: And on the 13th of *November* following, the said *Barran*, and few days before, *Peter Longueville* (who was formerly their Partner) were also taken up by virtue of the like Warrants.

The said *Longueville*, *Goudet*, and *Barran*, were obliged to give 6000 *l.* Security each for their Appearance at the *Kings-Bench* the first day of the following Terms: And the last day of last *Michaelmas* Term, nothing being alledged against him the said *Goudet*, though the said Books and Papers had been examined by the Lustring Company, and a Report made thereof, he was discharged by the said Court: After which, having demanded the said Books and Papers of Captain *Henry Baker*, who had them in his possession, and being denied the same, the said Court, upon a Motion made by the said *Goudet* and *Barran* the last day of last *Hilary* Term, ordered the said Books and Papers to be forthwith restored to them, and the said *Longueville* and *Barran*, and their Bail, to be discharged.

This not only put them the said *Goudet* and *Barran* to vast Charges, but for want of their Books and Papers for Nine Months together, they are disabled to proceed in their Business, and cannot avoid falling into a Confusion, if not speedily relieved.

The Lustring Company notwithstanding, who for some private hatred and jealousy of Trade, have been the promoters of all these proceedings, to prevent the restoring the said Books and Papers, and finding no Evidence against them the said *Goudet* and *Barran*, of any Treasonable, or other evil Practices, as was by them suggested, have now by their Petition presented to this Honourable House, prayed that the said Books and Papers may be examined by Order of this House.

The said *Goudet* and *Barran* utterly deny ever to have had any Share in, or Knowledge of any Combination or Design against the setting up here the Manufactory of Lustrings and Alamodes, but on the contrary they have encouraged and promoted the same to the utmost of their power, by supplying with Raw Silk fit for that work, a great many private Master Weavers, who employed many Hundreds of poor People about it under them; and had brought it to a much greater perfection than the said Lustring Company, when they obtained a Clause in an Act of Parliament past the last Session, excluding all others from making the said sorts of Goods. The said Raw Silk Imported by them the said *Goudet* and *Barran*, being the Returns of considerable Quantities of Cloath and other Woollen Manufactories of this Kingdom; the Exportation whereof was and still is their chief Trade and Business, as they are ready to prove by the Testimony of the said Weavers and the *Blackwell-Hall* Factors.

The said Goudet and Barran hope therefore, that this Honourable House will please to Order that their said Books and Papers shall be forthwith Restored to them, according to the said Order of the Kings-Bench.

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